



**SERGIO G DIAZ**  
CHIEF OF POLICE

# RPD Happenings

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March—April 2011

## Riverside Police Department

### Message from the Chief

With the holidays behind us we have an opportunity to reflect upon the past year. I am very pleased with the progress we have made in such a short time.

As you already may know, the Chief's Office has changed. A new executive command staff has been assembled and it brings together many years of law enforcement knowledge, and a depth of professional experiences that will help to move us forward. To increase our community policing effort, a Community Services Bureau (CSB) has been created within

the Chief's Office. The CSB has been tasked with coordinating the police department's outreach to the community and enhancing existing programs.

The CSB will bring back the police department's Citizen Academy in the coming months. The bureau will also provide additional resources to a number of other programs that require greater attention. Crime Free Multi-Housing, Neighborhood and Business Watch, Teen-2-Teen, and Youth Court will all benefit from the new bu-



**Chief Sergio Diaz**

reau. In addition to this, the CSB will strive to enhance Traffic Education and increase the Volunteer Program. Several new programs will be launched that include a high **Cont. Pg. 2**

### Police Commit to Community Outreach

Riverside Police Chief Sergio Diaz is pleased to announce the creation of the Community Services Bureau (CSB) to strengthen the relationship between the community and

police department. The CSB will provide a proactive and innovative approach to problem solving, personal safety and crime preven-

tion. The bureau will be under the command of Lieutenant Guy Toussaint and will report directly to Assistant Chief Christopher Vicino.

"Community Policing is not a goal in and of itself; **Cont. Pg.7**

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#### Tip of the Month:

- Be prepared, and be alert
- Know your surroundings
- Avoid doorways or places where someone can hide.
- Stay in well lit areas when possible

## Chief Message Continued...

school internship and youth mentorship program. This outreach is part of our commitment to provide service to youth in the Riverside community.

The Field Operations Division, which encompasses all uniform police personnel, was reorganized. All of these employees were moved to the Lincoln Street Police Station, including the Traffic Bureau. In the past, these resources were split between two or three police commands. Today, they operate under the singular leadership of Captain John Wallace, a long-time veteran of the Riverside Police Department. By consolidating this operation, we hope to make it easier to create unity of purpose and unity of effort.

The Investigations Division includes Central and Special investigations. All the employees in this division are located at the Magnolia Street Police Station or the Family Justice Center under the command of Captain Meredyth Meredith, another long-time veteran of the Riverside Police Department who has the tenure and experience to lead these important operations. The investigative units in this division include Robbery/Homicide, Gangs, Domestic Violence, Economic Crimes, Sexual Assault and Child Abuse and Graffiti. These detectives are supported by the Computer Forensics and Evidence teams.

The Special Operations Division does not have a common work address, as the nature of their work calls for decentralization. Within this division, the four Neighborhood Policing Centers (area detectives, bike patrols, and POP officers) have been strategically placed close to their areas of responsibility to provide increased police service delivery; the Aviation Bureau resides at the Riverside Airport with METRO/SWAT. The Technical Services Unit can be found at the Lincoln Street Police Station. This division is being led by Captain John Carpenter, another long-time veteran of the Riverside Police Department. He possesses the vast experience necessary to manage all of these special

details.

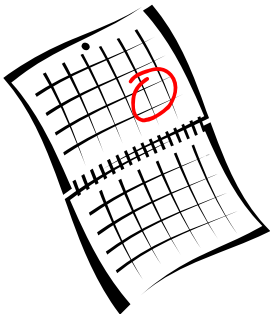
The Support Services Division is made up of the Internal Affairs Unit, Personnel Unit, and the Training Unit. It is led by Captain Mike Perea, yet another long-time employee of the Riverside Police Department. He is the newest captain, but he is charged with oversight of very critical areas of the police department. This division is spread out among three different locations: Orange Street Headquarters, Lincoln Street Police Station, Magnolia Street Police Station.

The Management Services Division is staffed entirely by civilian personnel and includes the following sections: Alarm Enforcement, Court Services, Crime Analysis, Facilities, Finance, Fleet Services, Records, and the Property Room. It is led by Division Commander Karen Aquino, another long-time veteran of the Riverside Police Department who has the tenure and experience to lead these vital support operations.

Law enforcement faces many challenges that have been exacerbated by the most severe economic recession most of us have ever seen. We must think anew, creatively and efficiently in order to provide the Riverside community with safe, livable neighborhoods. I am confident in the men and women of the police department, and the leadership of its command staff, to overcome these challenges. I have the highest confidence in their abilities and look forward to each of them showcasing their divisions in the community.

**Chief challenges  
department to  
enhance outreach to  
the community.**

## Community Event Calendar



- ◆ March 5, 2011—Walk with the Mayor
  - ◇ Arlington Neighborhood—Call 826-5813 for info
- ◆ March 16, 2011—Doty Trust Park Dedication
  - ◇ Campbell & Golden      5 PM—5:30 PM
- ◆ March 23, 2011—Senior Conference
  - Janet Goeske Center    9 AM—1:30 PM

## Have a question? ASK RPD

Do you have a police question you would like answered? Not sure why the police do things a certain way? Ask RPD. Send you questions to [newslet-](#)

[ter@riversideca.gov](mailto:ter@riversideca.gov) and we will review, answer and print as many questions and answers as possible.



## RPD Hosts Senior Conference in March

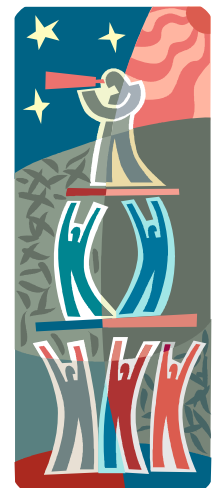
*BY PSR Nancy Castillo*

As senior citizens enter their Golden Years, they look for information and resources to help them live positive lives and maintain their independence. On March 23, 2011, seniors and care providers for seniors are invited to the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Senior Conference. The conference takes place from 8:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Janet Goeske Center, 5257 Sierra Avenue. Numerous agencies and resources will be present to distribute information and answer questions.

The Riverside Police Depart-

ment, the Janet Goeske Center, and the Mayor's Commission on Aging are sponsoring this annual conference for area residents. There will be presenters covering topics of Emergency Preparedness, Financial Fraud and Scams, Seniors and Medication, and everyone's favorite – a K-9 Presentation.

Office on Aging, Community Action Partnership of Riverside County, *Continued on page 7* California Lifeline, Social Security Administration, Curtailing Abuse Related to Elderly Team (CARE Program), City of Riverside Departments, Blindness **Cont. Pg 6**



## Uniformed Services Division



**Captain  
John Wallace**

The Field Operations Division is the largest division of the Police Department and the home to uniformed patrol and traffic services. The Field Operations Division provides first response to all emergencies, performs preliminary investigations, and provides basic patrol and traffic services to the City of Riverside.

Our highly trained and well equipped patrol officers provide the first line of defense against crime and disorder in the City of Riverside. They are the frontline soldiers who perform their duties with pride, confidence, and professional-

ism. The Riverside Police Department enjoys a long tradition of quality policing and teamwork in a fast paced environment.

Captain Wallace oversees approximately 120 sworn patrol officers, 25 sworn traffic/motor officers, 27 Sergeants, 6 Lieutenant Watch Commanders, 1 Executive Lieutenant, 1 Traffic Lieutenant and civilian support staff. Officers are assigned to Neighborhood Policing Centers (NPC) and are accountable for their assigned area.

## Special Operations Division



**Captain  
John Carpenter**

The Special Operations Division is primarily comprised of four Neighborhood Policing Centers (NPCs) that divide the city into distinct geographical policing areas to be more responsive and accountable to local needs and to better serve the Riverside community. A Lieutenant Area Commander, who is responsible for identifying and prioritizing police services, oversees each NPC. Each NPC has a sergeant, several detectives and Problem Oriented Policing officers that are dedicated to conducting follow-up investigations on crimes and addressing com-

munity livability and quality of life issues.

In addition to the Neighborhood Policing Centers, the Special Operations Division includes the Special Weapons and Tactics Team (SWAT), Emergency Negotiations Team (ENT), Technical Services Unit (TSU) and Aviation Bureau. The Communications Bureau is also housed under the Special Operations Division.

## Investigations Division

The Investigations Division consists of two distinct bureaus, Centralized Investigations and Special Investigations. This Division has citywide responsibility for the investigation of high profile and major crimes. The Division falls under one captain, with a lieutenant managing each of the two bureaus. Crimes investigated by this Division require subject matter expertise and specialized training. The detectives and civilians in this Division often represent the most experienced personnel in the department. The Investigation

Division seeks to provide professional investigative services designed to increase public safety and solve crime using a problem solving approach including prevention, intervention and suppression strategies.



**Captain  
Meredyth Meredith**

## Support Services Division

The Support Services Division is responsible for providing oversight and management of the Personnel, Training, and Internal Affairs components of the Riverside Police Department. Both the Personnel and Training Bureaus play a critical role in the successful recruitment, training and retention of the highest qualified candidates for employment. In an era of competitive recruitment for careers in law enforcement, our staff employs the most viable recruitment strategies in an effort to seek diverse and qualified candidates, while promoting community policing and

the mission and values of the Department.

The Internal Affairs Bureau is another vital component of the Support Services Division, providing complete, fair and impartial administrative investigations, in compliance with law, Department policies and procedures. This investigative element helps to ensure that we hold ourselves accountable to the principles of police professionalism and a commitment to excellence.



**Captain  
Mike Perea**



## Management Services Division

The Management Services Division provides business and support operations for the Police Department.

Management Services is entirely staffed with civilian personnel and is the third largest division in the department.

It includes the following sections: Budget and Fiscal management for a

\$100 million budget; Grant Management; Police Records, Telephone Report Unit, Public Counters, Crime Analysis, Property & Evidence Room, Fleet procurement and maintenance, Court Services, Alarm Enforcement and Facilities Management.



**Admin. Svs. Manager  
Karen Aquino**

## Senior Conference cont...

Support Services, and the Riverside Housing Development Corp. are just few of the agencies to be represented at the conference. Lt. Chris Manning, the North Neighborhood Policing Commander, stated that, "Senior citizens are some of our most vulnerable victims of crime. This

conference is an example of our department's commitment to provide an avenue for our community be informed." The conference is free to everyone. For more information contact: Police Service Representative Nancy Castillo at (951) 826-8721 or at [ncast@riversideca.gov](mailto:ncast@riversideca.gov).

**Don't  
miss out  
on the  
fun!**

## Citizen Academy to Start March 31, 2011

**Live or work  
in Riverside?**

**Want to  
know more  
about RPD?**

**Sign up for  
the Citizen  
Academy.**

The Riverside Police Department Citizen Academy is a series of informational classes designed to provide community members with an inside look at how the department operates on a daily basis. Attendees will learn about topics such as patrol procedures, general investigations, neighborhood watch, gang and narcotic investigations, traffic, air unit and much more.

If you are interested in participating in this enlightening experience, please visit our website at [www.rpdonline.org](http://www.rpdonline.org) to complete the application.

### Citizen Academy Goals:

- ◆ Increase Understanding between Citizens and Police
- ◆ Build Stronger Relationships for a better Community

For more information go to:  
[www.rpdonline.org](http://www.rpdonline.org) or email

[citizenacademy@riversideca.gov](mailto:citizenacademy@riversideca.gov)

## Safe In His Arms Memorial

During the early morning hours of February 4, 1940, gunfire from ambush brought about the death of Riverside Police Officer Edward A. Bertino, and critically wounded his partner, Officer Homer Stricklin.

Traffic Officer Bertino had been a member of the Riverside Police Department since

May 1920. He was appointed as a traffic officer in October.

He lived at 3463 Walnut Street with his wife, Willma Bertino, and their three children, Kenneth, Marilyn, and Billy. He was the son of Mary and William Bertino, of Santa Monica.

[www.riversideca.gov/rpd/Memorial/ebertino.htm](http://www.riversideca.gov/rpd/Memorial/ebertino.htm)



**Officer  
Edward Bertino**

## Community Outreach continued...

the purpose of Community Policing is to help achieve a safer and more livable city” said Chief Sergio Diaz. “The CSB has been tasked with developing and delivering Riverside Police Department programs to enhance our Community Policing efforts thereby making our neighborhoods safer and better”.

Personnel in the CSB will coordinate the police department’s community programs including the Citizen Academy, Crime Free Multi-Housing, Neighborhood and Business Watch, Teen 2 Teen, Traffic Education, the Volunteer Unit and Youth Court. In addition, several new programs are in the planning stages including a Teen Internship Program and a Police Mentor Program.

The CSB will coordinate and track all community programs, facilitate media events, and as-

sist staff in other divisions with community programs. The bureau will be managed by Sergeant Dan Warren and Supervisor Karen Haverkamp and staffed by five Officers and three Police Service Representatives.

For more information about the Community Services Bureau or programs offered, contact Supervisor Karen Haverkamp at 951-826-5644

[khaver@riversideca.gov](mailto:khaver@riversideca.gov) or Sergeant Dan Warren at 951-826-5900 [dwarren@riversideca.gov](mailto:dwarren@riversideca.gov).



**Police interact with  
the community.**

Being proactive for our community!

## Riverside Police Department

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Follow RPD on the  
web at [rpdonline.org](http://rpdonline.org)



## Volunteer Spotlight

Shirley Wayne joined the Riverside Police Department as a volunteer in 2007. While Shirley was employed as a caregiver she became aware that many elderly or disabled people do not have anyone at home to help them. Shirley believed that receiving a friendly phone call once a week it would help. Shirley also wanted to work with children. Shirley began volunteering for our You Are Not Alone (YANA) and 911 for kids programs.

Shirley has always been willing to assist with any assignment. Shirley regularly donates 60 hours plus a month. Shirley makes phone calls for our YANA program, works in our Alarm Enforcement Unit, Court Services Unit, and works with Paul Matthews as a Mall Walker at the Galleria at Tyler. In 2010 Shirley donated 415 hours, bringing her lifetime total as a Riverside Police Department Volunteer to 1499 hours.

The Riverside Police Department is proud to honor Shirley.

**Shirley Wayne**

**2010**

**Volunteer of the Year!**

